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Haliburton Red Wolves
Learn about our local Special Olympics team and their Bowl-a-Thon on page 2.

End of the Line - Part 4
Read Janet Trull's latest article in the historical fiction series on page 3.

Sickness and consideration
Read this week's editorial by Maybelle on page 6.

The Minden Hills Fire Department hosted their annual Fire Prevention Week Open House on Oct. 13 at the Minden Fire Hall. Firefighter Jordan Hunt plays a game with his son. Kids of all ages visited the station to try out the equipment, play games, and learn about fire safety. /TIM YANO special to *County Life*

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Jason Kitchener gives the peace sign.

Brodie Mason enjoyed time with friends during practice.

Finding bravery and community with the Red Wolves

VIVIAN COLLINGS
County Life Editor

When walking through the doors of Fast Lane Bowling in Minden on a Wednesday afternoon, sounds of laughter, cheer, and the familiar, satisfying crashing of pins fills the ears.

Next comes the visual.

Ear to ear smiles, high fives, hugs, and thumbs up in the air paint a scene of companionship.

Finally, and undebatably best of all, is getting to converse with the most joyful, driven, accepting group of people in the county.

"It's about being a friend, it's about being visible in the community, it's about inclusion, it's about showing everyone their gifts," said Yvette Brauer, Haliburton Red Wolves volunteer and coach.

History

It's impossible to feel anything but happy around the athletes and volunteers, and it's no wonder the organization has been flourishing since 1996.

The Red Wolves are a group of local athletes with intellectual disabilities. Under the umbrella of Special Olympics Ontario (SOO), the local not-for-profit organization offers bowling, curling, Bocce, golf, softball, and shuffleboard.

All athletes are involved in bowling every Wednesday.

"Everyone's happy when they get a strike themselves, but if someone two lanes over gets a strike, they're just as happy," said Tracey Pratt, a Red Wolves volunteer. "Everyone's unconditionally supportive of each other. There's no judgement from anyone."

The organization was spearheaded by Linda Brandon 27 years ago.

"In 2007, Linda gave up the bowling ball and went back to school to become a teacher," said Brauer. "The rest is history. Here we are now."

Brauer came to Haliburton County in 2005 and has been involved with the team ever since.

Pratt has been an official volunteer since 2010, but has been involved with the team since her daughter Skylar became a Red Wolf in 2005.

A few of the volunteers reminisced on travelling to Charlottetown, PEI in 2018 with a group of athletes to the Special Olympic National Games and won a bronze, two silver medals, and a gold.

"We always have such a blast," said volunteer and coach Rick West. "I go to help out, to coach, but I learn so much more from them than I think they do of me."

The team today

There are currently 32 athletes on the Red Wolves team, and nearly as many volunteers.

Summer is busier, but athletes have the opportunity to see each other twice a week in the winter if they curl as well as bowl.

But again, it's not just about the sports. It's about all the great things that come from bringing together a group of outstanding humans.

"Everyone's happy when they get a strike themselves, but if someone two lanes over gets a strike, they're just as happy," said Pratt. "Everyone's unconditionally supportive of each other. There's no judgement from anyone."

The volunteers said not only does the team build strong connections with each other, they also bond with the helpers.

"Volunteering means being a friend. The more we get together, the stronger friendships become. It builds community within the team as well. They support each other so much," Brauer explained. "You could be having a bad day, but once you go, you can't help but feel better."

West said competing in the Special Olympics also gives athletes a sense of independence.

"When we go away to compete, it's just coaches that go so it builds confidence within the athletes and their caregivers that they're very capable. Our athletes are so dedicated. They want to practice and learn. They have so much motivation," he said.

Bowl-A-Thon

Their annual Bowl-A-Thon has been a tradition since 2010.

This year, the fundraiser will be held on Saturday, Oct. 28 at Fast Lane Bowling. There will be a flight from 2 to 4 p.m. and one from 4 to 6 p.m.

"Of all the money raised, our athletes have raised half themselves with their pledge sheets, and the money goes back to the athletes themselves," West said.

Funds are used to reduce or complete eliminate the cost of playing each sport and also helps send them to competitions.

There will be prizes for participants in a variety of categories, and everyone is encouraged to dress up for Halloween.

Teams can register for the Bowl-A-Thon by contacting West at 705-457-8855 or sending a message to the Haliburton Red Wolves on Facebook.

"It's always such a fun day, one of the best of the year for us. We can't wait," said West.

The team is always accepting new athletes and welcomes new volunteers, too.

"No matter their ability level, we're there to help and guide and coach," said Brauer.

Donations to the Haliburton Red Wolves can be made via e-transfer to haliburtonredwolves@gmail.com. Donations over $20 are eligible for a tax receipt.

"We really are a big family. I know it sounds cheesy, but it's true," said Pratt.

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For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in **County Life** please contact **Melissa Armstrong** at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

In sickness and in health

End of the Line ~ Part 4

JANET TRULL

Special to County Life

We know something, now, after living in the shadow of COVID, about rampaging diseases and the way fear spreads when the cause is unknown. Before migrating to Canada, many of Haliburton's early settlers endured cholera epidemics in the crowded cities of the U.K. and Europe. The belief at the time was that cholera was caused by bad air and immoral lifestyles, so the appeal of moving to a wilderness with a small and scattered population must have been very attractive. Unfortunately, cholera (nicknamed the blue death) followed them across the Atlantic Ocean to Canada and was particularly rampant in port cities like Quebec City and Kingston. Ships carrying new settlers were called "coffin ships." Poor sanitation and bad water caused an extreme loss of fluids, turning the skin blue, and death often occurred within one day.

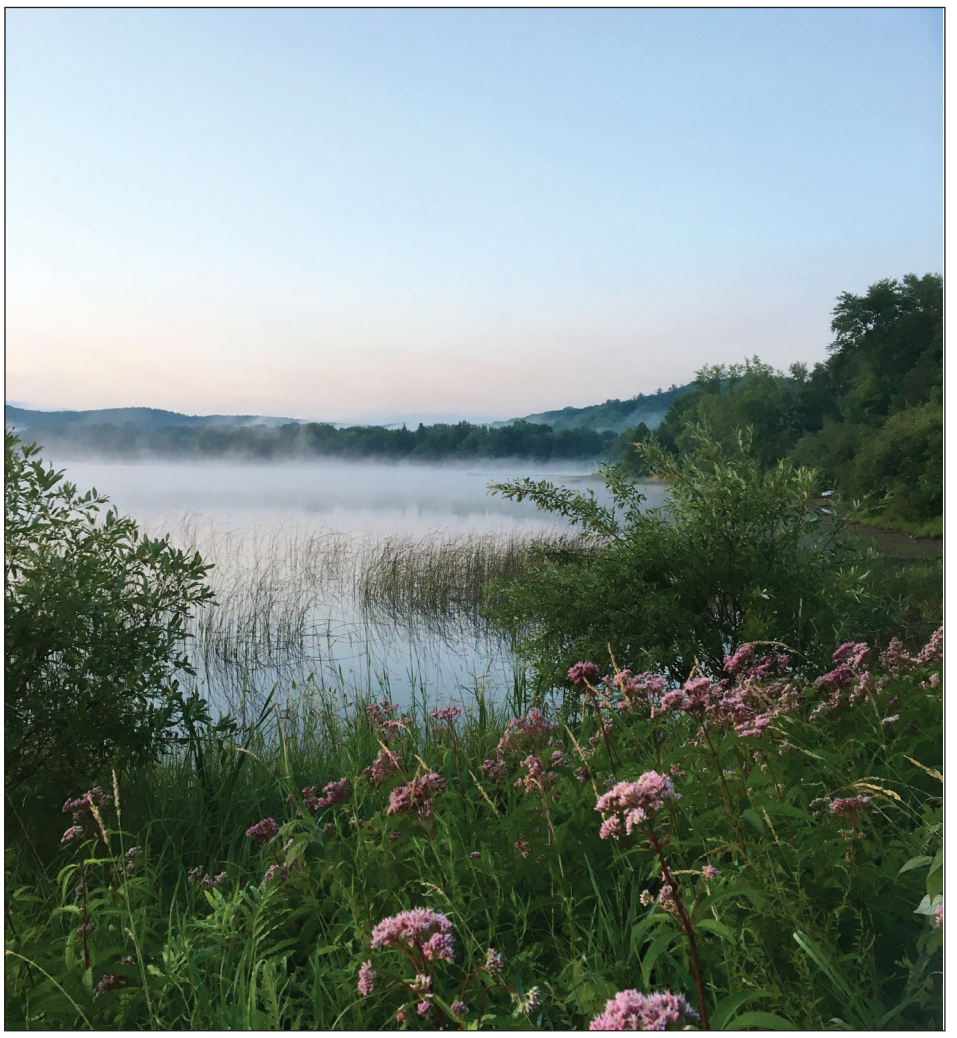
Those who rode the Victoria Rail Line to Haliburton were still vulnerable to scarlet fever, smallpox, diphtheria and tuberculosis, diseases that could be transmitted in the close sleeping quarters of a lumber camp, at the local tavern, or at church. The introduction of Red Cross Outposts in the Haliburton area was decades away in the future, so families depended on home remedies like mustard plasters and chicken soup. They may have tried "snake oil" from the travelling tinker. Superstitions, passed down from grannies in the old country, had mixed results.

The forest was full of herbal remedies, if only one knew where to look. Much Indigenous wisdom on the healing power of nature had been lost during the early years of colonization with the tragic relocation of First Nations populations to reserves. Milkweed relieved muscle and joint pain. Spruce tea cured symptoms of scurvy with high doses of Vitamin C. Willow bark was used for pain relief. On my property, there is a huge patch of Joe Pye weed down by the lake. Butterflies love it. The story is told that Joe Pye was an Indigenous healer from New England who discovered that the tall, purple flowering weed provided a cure for the deadly typhus outbreaks that killed so many. Was Joe Pye a real person? Maybe not. It was more likely a faulty interpretation of the Native American word for typhoid. Jopai.

Fear of sickness has always caused myths and misunderstandings to develop. Education about hand-washing and clean water sources eventually increased community health and wellness.

The early days in Haliburton were tough enough for healthy folks, but the sick were likely to perish. Mortality rates for women during childbirth and infants were high. Pioneering took a great deal of energy, and when a family was weakened by influenza or fever, it often meant the cabin's hearth went cold. The wood did not get chopped. The soup did not get made. Harsh weather and hunger left isolated settlers in danger.

Surviving in the backwoods in the 1800s required resilience, resourcefulness, and a lot of luck. A good immune system could tip the balance between success and failure.



Joe Pye weed growing on Pine Lake in West Guilford. /Janet Trull Special to County Life

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Cam and Lauren Green are the dreamers and doers behind Fort Treehouse Co., and have built the business around the interests and needs of their family. /Photo by Erin Leydon

Fort Treehouse Co. climbs the ladder to their next project

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Staff

For some entrepreneurs, they are discouraged when they're told their heads are in the clouds.

For Lauren and Cam Green, they saw that as an opportunity.

The couple are the brains behind Fort Treehouse Co.; Canada's premier luxury treehouse company right here in Minden Hills.

"Our main plan was to become a treehouse construction company," explained Lauren, "but we started renting out the model to offset our starter costs, and we've really enjoyed the hospitality side of things."

Lauren and Cam finished the treehouse model, called "The Baltic", in 2020. Since then, the unit has been consistently rented out to explorers from around the world, and garnered over 348,000 followers on Instagram. "We wanted to combine beautiful, simple Scandinavian designs with experiential travel," said Lauren.

As interest in the concept continued to climb, the couple decided it was time to expand, and on Oct. 2, announced they are moving forward on a new adventure: Hartwood. "We are embarking on Canada's premier lodging experience," they said in their public statement, "an epic 15-acre untamed woodland escape including three self-contained private treehouse accommodations, a natural spa and a lobby for gathering and tasting."

The location for the new venture will be alongside Dahl Forest in Minden Hills. "We've got a really great relationship with the Dahl family as well as the Land Trust," shared Lauren, "and we are receiving tremendous support at the county level from Scott Ovell (the director of economic development for the county) and HCDC."

Lauren shared that one of the biggest hiccups in the process so far has been zoning in Minden Hills. In order to pursue the project, the property needed to be rezoned from rural to tourism/commercial development; a process which took over a year and a half to complete. "There's always something," said Lauren, "but we made sure we went through some heavy duty environmental assessments to move forward."

The Baltic was the first treehouse the young couple built together, and from this model, they intend to build more near Dahl Forest. /Photo submitted

Lauren and Cam keep the concept of environmental sustainability on the forefront of all their projects. As outdoor enthusiasts themselves, the two met at Camp Wanakita when they were young, and spent a decade as friends before getting together and starting a family. "We really find so much value in the time outside," said Lauren.

With that interest in the outdoors in mind, Cam attended a course in Vermont on sustainable treehouse building. The idea was that the couple would dive into some personal projects for fun. But neither of them saw what the dream could snowball into.

"Nothing like this has ever been done before in Canada," said Lauren, in reference to the Hartwood endeavour, which has already broken ground and is moving forward with building. She noted that the lobby portion has been built, and the next steps are to secure the hardware in the trees. But she shared that the builders need to work around the footprint of the trees that already exist. "Our priority is to have as little impact on the surrounding landscapes," she said. "Nothing makes me more emotional than the climate crisis, so we are in the business of protecting all the trees we're working around."

And in return, the trees offer an experience unlike any other. "So many people come to this community and they just want to go to the lake," said Lauren. "But we are realizing that there's something so magical about spending time in a forest. Surrounded by trees. It can be so powerful."

The couple hopes that one day they can expand their offerings, and collaborate with other local businesses to continue to foster the vision of Fort Treehouse in the community. Lauren hopes that at Hartwood, the lobby - which will be a stop off the Rail Trail for coffee, tea, snacks, and wine tastings - can also double as a facility to host events, workshops, and community gatherings.

"We think it's so cool to challenge yourself," said Lauren, "this really is an adventure."

What is science and the perils of 'doing your own research'

ERIN KERNOHAN-BERNING

Special to *County Life*

"Follow the science" and "do your own research" are phrases often thrown about when someone is trying to make a persuasive argument about a particular topic, often in online discussions. However, often these phrases aren't said or heard with a full understanding of what science and research actually are. Science and research are not just a quick Google search.

Science can basically be summed up as the systematic development of knowledge around a particular thing that occurs in the world such that we can form testable explanations and make predictions based on those explanations. Research is also the development of knowledge, and is a part of scientific exploration as well as other disciplines such as the arts and humanities. Research includes the creation of new knowledge, as well as the organization and analysis of existing knowledge.

Scientists and researchers spend most of their lives studying one particular thing and becoming experts about that thing. One of my professors in university studied a single molecule involved in a single biological process in a particular species of bacteria. This one specialization – one molecule doing one thing in one tiny little organism - has enough to explore in it to provide a lifetime of study opportunities for multiple people around the world.

When scientists study a particular thing, and through experimentation discover something new, they document their findings in a scientific paper. Those findings more often than not are scrutinized by a group of their peers for any potential mistakes or flaws in their methods prior to being accepted for publication – this process is called peer review. Peer review helps to ensure that the method used to arrive at the findings is sound, that potential bias has been accounted for, and that incorrect conclusions have been avoided. These published papers help add to the overall body of knowledge about a topic.

Just because a scientist has published a paper about a thing doesn't mean that's the end of the story. Researchers compare that paper with multiple other papers about the same topic to discern if the same conclusions have been drawn by multiple scientists, or if multiple conclusions have been drawn, whether the overall body of knowledge supports one conclusion over another.

This is how scientific knowledge evolves over time. New knowledge is added, incorrect conclusions are weeded out, and new ideas are explored. Science strives to provide the best knowledge we have at the time, while acknowledging that in a complex world we will inevitably discover something new that changes the conclusions we made before. This is why what you may have learned in high school biology (in my case, over 20 years ago), isn't always the most up-to-date information to work from.

When we as laypeople (non-scientists) "do our own research", we aren't really doing research. We're usually looking for information on a topic that interests us in such a way that fills a gap in our knowledge or supports a preconceived notion we have about how the world works. Your most satisfying Google searches likely end with a "HaHA! I knew it!" Rather than a "Boy did I get that wrong." Often, we're seeking to validate our own worldview, rather than seeking knowledge.

Likewise, when we say we "follow the science", we aren't performing our own studies and contributing to a body of knowledge. Rather we are usually following someone who is telling us about science. There are perils there too. Are we following well-trained science communicators who are well-versed with the up-to-date scientific literature and cite their sources? Or are we following charismatic people with opinions who make us feel a certain way but who don't really back up their claims?

One of the most meaningful moments in my university education was when I was early for a class and listening to a lecture from out in the hallway. The professor said the most important thing the future scientists in his class needed to learn to say was "I don't know." As human beings, it's impossible for us to know everything about everything. That's why we need experts. And a trustworthy expert will always say "I don't know" when a question falls outside of their scope of expertise. It may not be the most satisfying answer for someone seeking certainty, but it's an honest one.

It's also important for us to say "I don't know." Rather than trying to form an opinion by using Google to bolster our preconceived worldview, we need to be curious and search for good information from real scientists and researchers. These are experts who have devoted their lives to making the understanding of our world better, even if it is just one tiny molecule at a time.

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Send your letters to the editor to vivian@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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Consideration must be paid, don't tcha know

Maybelle's

Fireside stories

DEAR READER,

Have you ever looked up the word consideration in the dictionary?

Well, I have just now to make sure I still know what it means, because it seems like too many folks here in Lake WhaddayathinkImean have forgotten. And I'll tell you why I say that, but first…

According to ol' Merriam Webster's dictionary, consideration means: thoughtful and sympathetic regard. Again, thoughtful … and sympathetic … regard. You know I'm leading up to something, don't you? You know the smoke is beginning to seep out my ears and nostrils, don't you? Well, here's why…

COVID's back. Bigtime. That's right. Why folks are falling like flies in a windstorm.

Ethel McCreedy, Jenny Whittenheimer, and Sarah Plutesmier all got it volunteering together at St. Ann's Second Time Around Store. One of the gals evidently brought it in with her, and now they're all sick as bowwows, don'tcha know … for three weeks running, to boot.

Creemore Whitterspoon got it from sitting in front of somebody hacking their head off at a concert, don'tcha know. In fact, four other people ol' Maybelle knows got sick the same way.

People who should be staying home when they don't feel well are going to the Legion, the theatre, concerts, parties, all kinds of social events, group get-togethers, meetings, knowing full-well that they *aren't* well. Why, some folks even go to work like that, getting other folks sick, which brings me back to ol' Merriam's definition of consideration, don'tcha know.

Now, don't get me wrong. If anybody's sick of hearing about COVID, it's me! I've had it up to my hairline … and it's a pretty high hairline at that. But, it's something we all have to deal with and be smart about. And CONSIDERATE about, too, don'tcha know.

So, how do we do that?

For one, if you *have* to go out and you're not feeling well, *mask up*! Don't want to mask up? Then *don't go out*! Have a friend bring you groceries or whatever you happen to need.

Don't want to test yourself for COVID, but you feel really sluggish and achy? Rest up and stay IN. Also, it's not just about COVID. The same goes for having cold or flu symptoms. Any one of this trio is contagious. Why even my good friends, Twindle Mumbly and Vilma Yucch had to be reminded to stay home and take care of themselves when they were feeling yucky and wanted more than anything to come to one of our get-togethers. As it turned out, Twindle came down with COVID and Vilma had influenza for three weeks.

You know, the median age of folks living in Lake WhaddayathinkImean is: *old*.

And that means, a lot of folks are immune-compromised. And what THAT means is … they have some chronic condition that could have dire consequences if they got hit by COVID.

Now, I wish from the bottom, top, sides, front and back of my heart that you, dear reader, and all the good folks in Lake WhaddayathinkImean stay healthy from this day forward. But, it's going to take more than ol' Maybelle's wishes to keep you safe. It will take teamwork and focused, uh, uh, what's the word? … consideration, don'tcha know.

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You," 21 of Maybelle's best short stories is now available at www.amazon.com.

Top 10 reasons there are only 26 letters in the alphabet

HAVE YOU EVER wondered why we only have 26 letters in our alphabet? Me too. But, as far as I can ascertain, no one remembers what it is. Fortunately for you, I did a bit of research and discovered the top 10 reasons why this might be the case.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. The ancient calligrapher on the design team yelled, "Enough already!"
2. Had a hard time finding another noise that rhymed with "c."
3. Thought, "If we continue, we are going to be as bad as the guys who designed numbers."
4. Realized the real money was in punctuation.
5. Did not want to make spelling bees weeklong events.
6. Thought, "We can always add more later."
7. Realized that in a pinch, pharmacy could also be spelled farmacy.
8. Once they noticed all the silent letters, they said "What's the point?"
9. Hated the alphabet song and swore they would not make it any longer.
10. One more letter and they would have been over-budget.

Cosy

We got up so early, the moon was still out
Though eastern horizon looked ready to sprout
Its pink and teal striping behind roiling haze
As true morning promised again to birth rays
Of day across darkness and sleepy flat lake
Still snoring in ripples, though loons were awake
To chat about weather in mystic back-forth
Since now was a good time to leave the far north

We tucked into hoodies as chill of our van
Pulled dew from the night in a Milky Way span
Of galaxy-sparkle like Saturn, like stars
Across our cold windshield and those of the cars
Which headed like us to buy breakfast in town
Where more tired leaves tumbled wistfully down
And mist drifted sideways - weird tentacled ghost
Thank goodness this restaurant's nearer than most

So once tucked in booth on its safe wooden bench
We order our eggs in an anglicized French
"A omelette-fromage, with home frites on the side!"
"And mine will be spinach, tomates, très sun-dried."
To sound super-fancy, we each did the same
Pronouncing our order like chefs of great fame
The waitress guffawed since she knew us both well
And auto-poured coffee to charge every cell

By now sky was shredding to ribbons of dawn
And draining last caffeine, we peered out at lawn
Which stretched beyond diner to wakening street
Stock still there on grass, sudden eyes, gentle feet
Was nonchalant whitetail in love, not with us
But with its reflection in eatery glass
We grinned at each other and took in this gold
To witness was blissful; it never gets old

By Deborah J Reed

HHSS cross country stars

The Red Hawk Junior Girls Cross Country team of Grace Allder, Olivia Gruppe, Violet Humphries and Ella Gervais captured the second-place team title at the Bay of Quinte Invitational Cross Country Meet held Oct. 4 at Dunnett Orchards in Brighton. Violet Humphries led the junior team with a fifth-place finish, closely followed by Grace Allder 12th; Olivia Gruppe 13th and Ella Gervais in 25th. The team had the lowest score of the ten junior girls teams at the meet. /Submitted by Karen Gervais

Junior Boys Brechin Johnston and Evan Backus work together in the 5K race on a very hot day when the humidex was hovering near 30C. These conditions combined with tough hills and very little shade made it a challenging day for many runners who battled heat exhaustion. Evan finished fourth and Brechin seven th in a field of 54 runners. Erika Hoare ran a strong race on the Senior Girls 6K course, finishing in 8th as a first-year senior and Hannah Sharp was 53rd. Haiden Bird ran 29th in the 6K Senior Boys race. The athletes continue to work towards their OFSAA goals.

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

When: Monday mornings 9:30 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion Branch 129, upper level
Admission: Yearly membership of $59
A non-profit/commercial network of weight-loss support groups, offers programs for healthy living and weight management.

Tickets Available for the 2024 Cash Calendar

When: Now until sold out
Where: Multiple Locations- See Description
The Haliburton and District Lions Club is now selling tickets for their 2024 Super Cash Calendar. Three draws happen the second Monday of every month from January 8th to Oct. 14th 2024. Please visit www.haliburtonlions.com for a list of ticket locations and for more information.

Contract Bridge

When: Every Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon
Where: Minden United Church basement, 21 Newcastle Street
Our weekly contract bridge has resumed and it's hoped that many will come back, along with new members. All levels of skill welcomed.

Annual Ducks Unlimited Dinner & Auction

When: Oct. 27, 5:30 p.m.
Where: Pinestone Resort, 4252 County Rd 21
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for cocktails, merchandise viewing and raffle ticket sales. Dinner will be at 7 p.m. Tickets are $60 per person. Call Shannon Stinson 705-455-2429 for tickets.

Outdoor Christmas Pots

When: Tuesday, Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Center, 55 Parkside St.Minden
Minden & District Horticultural Society invites you to come listen and watch our guest speaker Lorranine Turcotte demonstrate making Outdoor Christmas Pots.

Christmas Craft Sale

When: Saturday, Nov. 11, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Lloyd Watson Centre Wilberforce
Join us for a Christmas Craft sale to browse the flea market, baked goods, crafts, and unique Christmas gifts. Free admission, and snack bar on site. Vendors are welcome. Please contact Kathy at 705-448-1285 or at skrogers1995@gmail.com.

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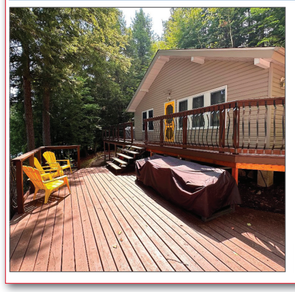

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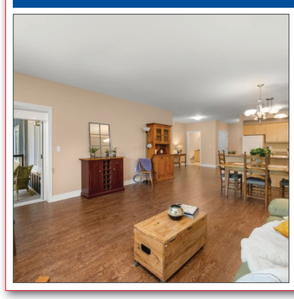

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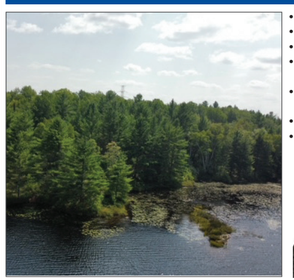

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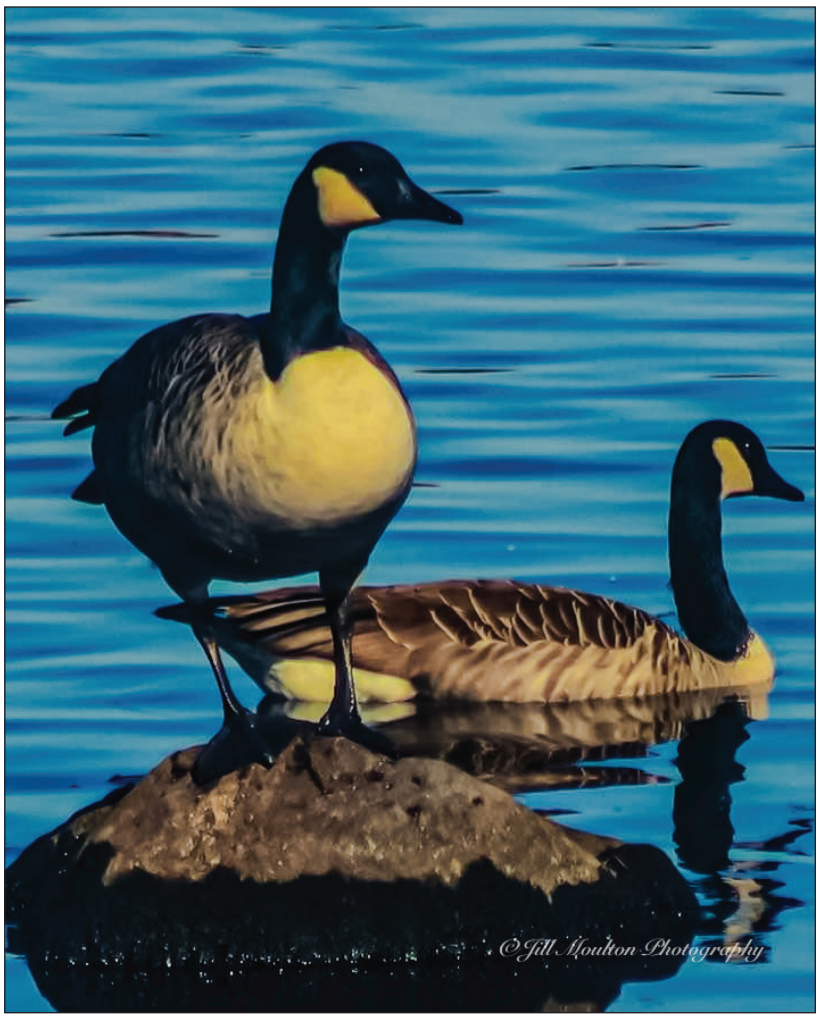

Two Canada geese before heading south. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

A fox carries a couple of squirrels for dinner. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

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Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge every Monday, 1 p.m. Schofield Rm.
Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30 to 9 p.m. (Sept to June)
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. $500. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, starting at 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw has five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC.
Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards.
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw – tickets are $1 each available in the Clubroom.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m. and Sat. 3 to 6 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
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Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Wilberforce

Oct. 26 - HHHS Social 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Open 2 to 6 p.m.
Oct. 27 - Senior's 55+ lunch noon - Open 2 to 9 p.m. – Wings/Jam 5 to 8 p.m.
Oct. 28 - Open 2 p.m. to midnight
Meat Draw 3 p.m., Karaoke 8 p.m. to midnight
Hallowe'en Costumes encouraged - prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd. Gift Certificates
Oct. 29 to 31 – CLOSED
Nov.r 1 - Open 2 to 6 p.m. Darts 2 p.m.
Nov. 2 - Open 2 to 6 p.m.
If you are planning an event our Ladies Auxiliary would be pleased to cater
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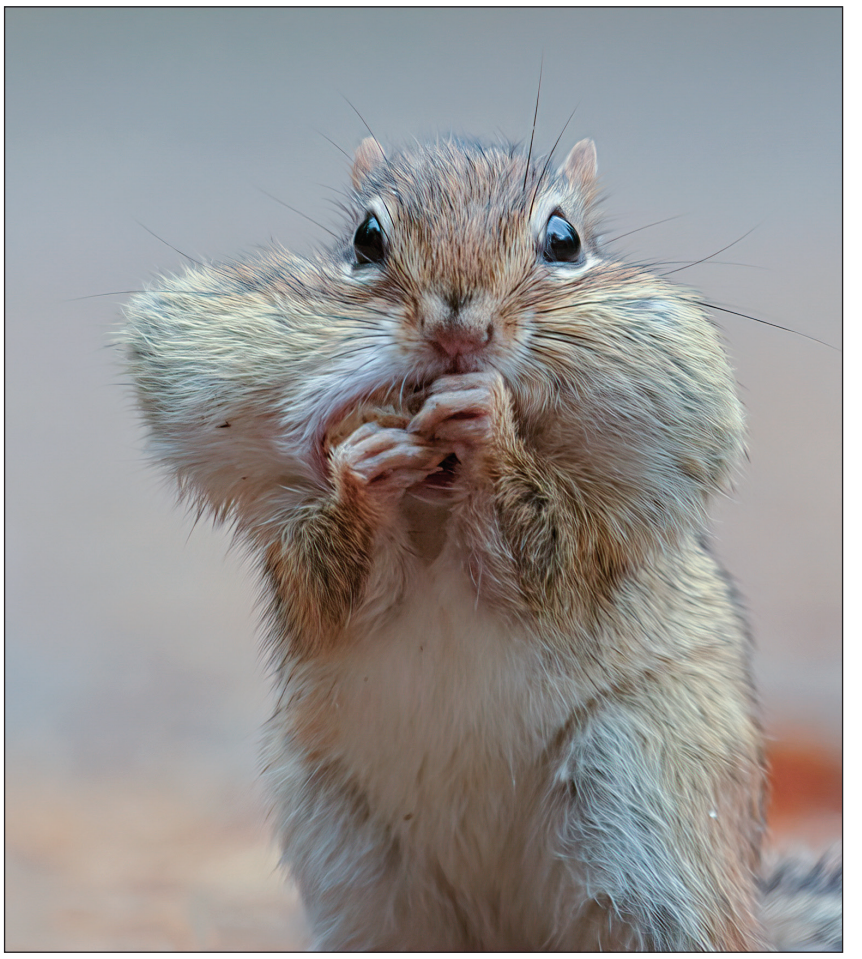
Upcoming events:
Remembrance Day – Saturday, Nov. 11
Cenotaph Service 11 a.m. – lunch to follow at the branch by donation 12 p.m.
All Welcome.

A late autumn sunrise. /Submitted by Guenter Horst

A Song sparrow among fallen leaves. /Submitted by Jill Moulton



A chipmunk with stuffed cheeks. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

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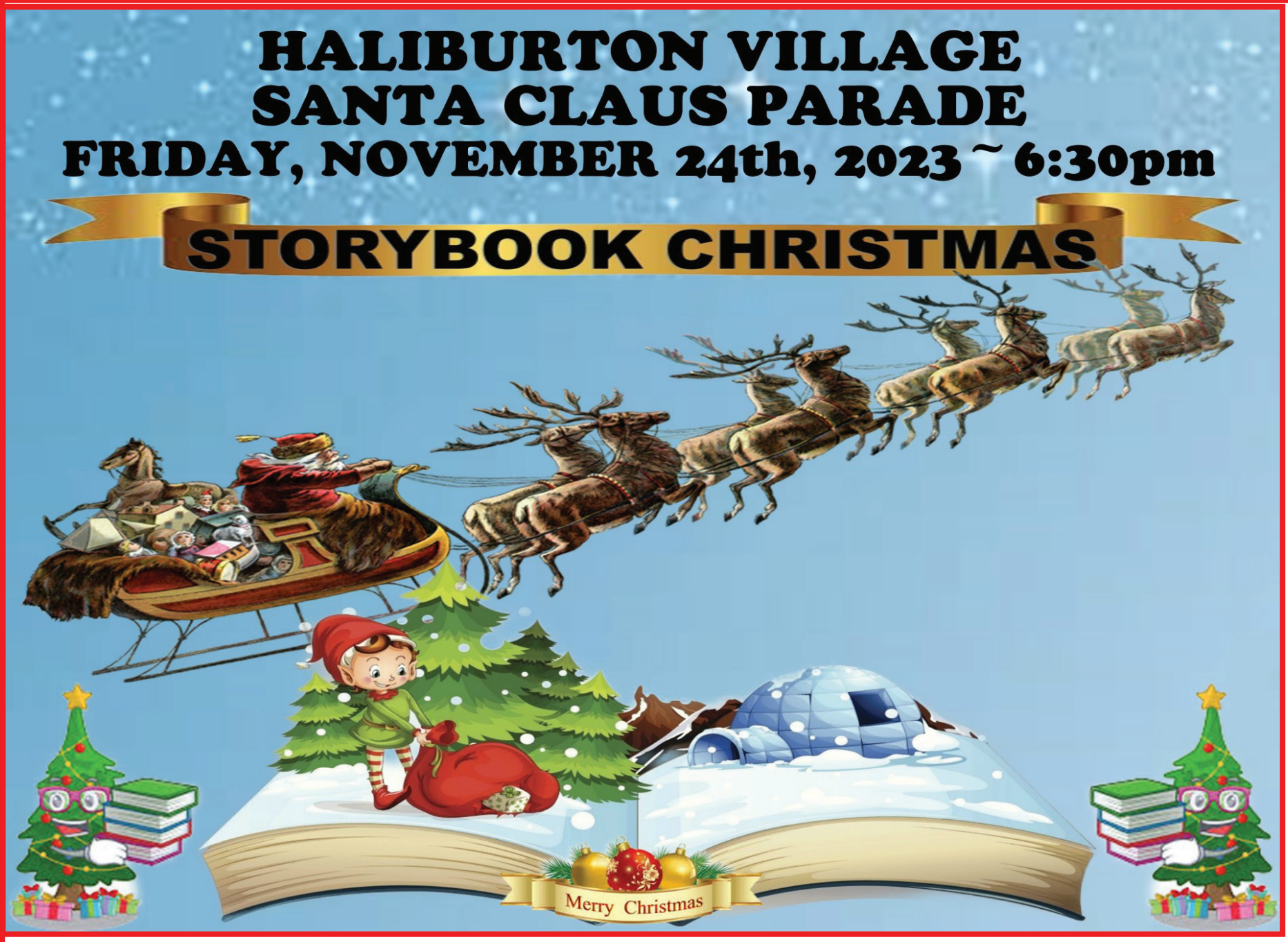
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24th, 2023 ~ 6:30pm

STORYBOOK CHRISTMAS



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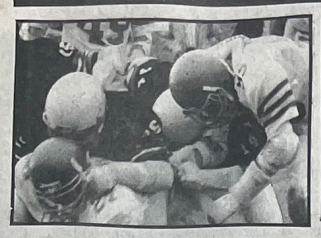

Their backs to the wall, the Redmen rallied to beat Fenelon Falls last Thursday in a game at home. For details, see page 6.

The Red Cross Homemakers are an integral part of Haliburton's health care system yet people know little about them. For more details, see page 11.

The teachers of the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School raised $600 for the Haliburton Hospital Expansion Fund. For details, see page 12.

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO

AND MINDEN RECORDER

Vol. 105 No. 52 Wednesday, October 21, 1987 'The voice of the Highlands' 20 pages 50 cents

FCP wants to build on election's 'strong base'

by MARTHA PERKINS
Staff Reporter

After the fledgling Family Coalition Party garnered more than 2,400 local votes in the last provincial election, the Victoria/Haliburton candidate is determined to broaden that base of support over the next years until her party can become the voice of opposition at Queens Park.

The efforts of party volunteers "resulted in a surprisingly strong base on which to build for the future," says Diane Roblin-Lee. Considering that her party received its charter just two weeks before the election, the voter support was "phenomenal", she adds.

Roblin-Lee, a resident of Woodville, says that society has reached a crucial point in its development. Because she doesn't see any of the other parties steering away from a destructive path, she has agreed to stay involved with the party and politics.

"Personally I never wanted to be involved in politics but at this point there isn't much of an alternative," she says. During the September campaign, she says many of the people she talked to were very apathetic and discouraged about the political scene. Approximately half of the people who told her they'd support her party actually bothered to vote, she says.

The FCP isn't just focused around a few issues, Roblin-Lee says and all aspects of governing concern the party. "The family is not just an emotional unit," she says, countering criticism that the FCP appeals to people on very emotional issues such as homosexual rights and abortion. "So goes the family, so goes the society."

In their actions, past governments have been moving away from the values of the family and have been ruling for the sake of their governments, not the people. The FCP wants to bring governments back to the people, she adds. "We're not trying to impose our values, we're

continued page 3

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NORMAN A. SISCO.
OCTOBER 19, 1987

Alan Sisco unveiled a plaque at the Haliburton campus of Sir Sandford Fleming College on Monday to commemorate the achievements of his father, Norman Sisco

Rural posties next: union president

by MARTHA PERKINS
Staff Reporter

Except for the fact there was less mail than usual in local mailboxes, the recent postal strike seemed a long way away from the concerns of Haliburton County residents. But the president of the Canadian Postmasters and Assistants union says there is need for people dependent on rural post offices to fear the same things the inside workers were striking to prevent—loss of jobs and services.

What Canada Post is attempting to do is separate mail distribution from postal sales, such as stamps, mail orders and couriers, says Lloyd Johnson, the Haliburton postmaster who is on leave of absence to head his union based in Ottawa. In larger centres, where a large population base is spread over a small area, that might make sense. People would benefit from being able to buy their stamps when they went to the drug store. But in rural areas, where the postal service is an integral part of the community and not easily separated into different areas, the result would be a negative one, says Johnson.

"What do you do with all the staff who are dual purpose," he asks, using Haliburton Village as an example. The staff there may sort the incoming and outgoing mail, stuff mailboxes or work at the counter on any given day. Part-time workers must be trained to do all jobs because when they come into work they'll be expected to do all things.

If you were to separate the functions at the Haliburton post office, you would go to Jasco to buy your stamps and then go to the post office to pick up your mail. In the city where mail is delivered to your door, or to a Supermailbox if you live in a subdivision, it doesn't matter too much that you don't get your mail from the same place you buy your stamps. In Haliburton it does.

The person in the city is paying the same percentage of federal income tax as the person in the country and since it is the federal tax dollars which fund the post office, Johnson doesn't think that's fair. "Why should I have to move to the city to get government services?"

Above all, the post office is a service, Johnson says, and should be

continued page 10

Norm Sisco's past alive at ceremony

by MARTHA PERKINS
Staff Reporter

There was no end to the complimentary adjectives used Tuesday afternoon to describe the enormous impact the late Norman Sisco had both on education in Haliburton and the provincial college system. Educators past and present, involved community members and family had gathered to honour a man with the best memorial anyone could have given him—naming the Haliburton campus of Sir Sandford Fleming College the "Norman A. Sisco Centre."

"My father really loved Haliburton; it was part of his life," said his son, Alan, as he unveiled the plaque near the entranceway to the campus. "I couldn't think of a more appropriate memoriam than this."

Norman Sisco was the first principal of the Haliburton highschool and stayed here for five years before moving on to the Technological and Trades Training Branch of the Department of Education. It was while he was here that Sisco, Lorne Johnston and Dr. Herb Jackson began organizing Ontario's college system. In 1970, once colleges were spring up in communities in all corners of the province, Sisco was named the first full-time Chairman of the Ontario Council of Regents for the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario. He held this job for seven years before he retired. He continued to spend much of his time at his cottage on Drag Lake until his death last winter.

"We're honouring a great educator and making certain the progress of this section of the college continues," said Richard Gorwill, the chairman of SSFC's board of governors. Haliburton is unique, he said later, because it brought the college to the community instead of the more usual route. Besides being of benefit for the people who live here, the campus' presence acts as a mecca for artists in the summer when it operates the School of Fine Arts.

"Norm Sisco was a pioneer, visionary and a great leader," said Rod Rork, the interim president of the college. "We will continue to need pioneers whose idea of serving the environs of the community was not only progressive" but recognized the importance of community involvement for years to come. The Haliburton campus is a "testimony to the relationship between educational institutions and the communities they serve."

"He was our friend and mentor. His passion for quality, integrity, and respect for people made him the college system's spiritual leader," said the former president of SSFC, Charles Pascal reading from a speech he delivered at the 1987 conference of college associations. "He will be remembered for his outstanding courage and sensitivity, and for making his vision a significant and

continued page 7

Decision reserved

The judges at an Ontario Municipal Board hearing on Thursday are reserving their decision about a land severance application in Stanhope Township.

Violet Mueller owns a large tract of land on Norley Road which she wants to subdivide into three smaller lots. Stanhope council has given its approval but objections from neighbouring property owners could not be settled without the hearing.

The judges heard evidence from objectors Mrs. Harry Randall and Larry VanLieshout as well as municipal planner Jim Dyment and clerk-administrator Gerald Bain. Since the municipality has approved the severances, Mrs. Mueller's interests were indirectly voiced by the municipality.

While verbal decisions are sometimes given on the day of the hearing, the judges are going to study the issue further before making a decision, sometime possibly within the next month.

Acres tries to deal with Trent Severn problems

TSW audit phase completed

by MARTHA PERKINS
Staff Reporter

While it is ready to investigate suggested changes to the management of the Trent Severn Waterway, the consulting firm doing a post audit on the system has already identified several areas where the operation of the system could be improved.

Acres International of Niagara Falls, Ont. has completed the draft of the Phase One report which outlines the history of the navigation and reservoir lake system, some of the problems which have developed over the past years, the present system of operations, changes to the computer system and data collection, and further areas of study in Phase Two.

However some debate and confusion have arisen over a misinterpretation of the consulting firm's future plans. While the report discusses changes to the current operating policy which "have been proposed by the public" and are subject to future investigation, concerns have been expressed that these are definite goals of Acres.

"Possible changes to the current operating policy will be assessed by first determining if the proposed change is both technically feasible and capable of influencing the operation of the system," Chapter Six on the work plan reads. "Proposed changes that are both feasible and influential will then be represented in the Simulation Module (part of the computer system which determines how much water should be drawn down from Haliburton County lakes.) Computer runs will be made for several canal operating seasons with a range of hydrologic conditions (wet, average and dry) to verify feasibility and influence of the proposed changes."

At a public meeting in August at the Haliburton Legion, hundreds of cottagers, local politicians and interested parties voiced their complaints about the current management of the system. A warm spring, during which much of the snow evaporated rather than melted, was followed by a very dry summer. So much water had to be drawn down from lakes to keep the Trent Canal system at its required level, that many cottagers left for the city in mid-August because they were not able to enjoy the lakes' recreational opportunities such as boating, skiing or swimming. People were so upset by the lake levels that some proposed a boycott of municipal taxes.

"The general attitude expressed was that TSW assigns too high a

continued page 2

Whenever there's a problem with the lake levels, the staff at the Trent Severn Waterway office in Haliburton is sure to hear about it. Quite often, people expect man can balance what Mother Nature metes out and are angry when this is impossible. Acres International is trying to help stop complaints before they happen.

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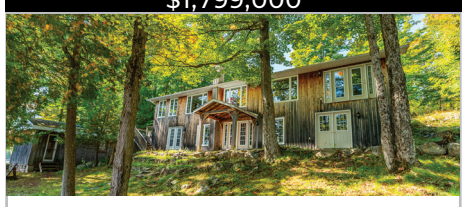

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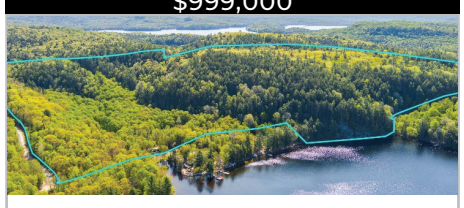

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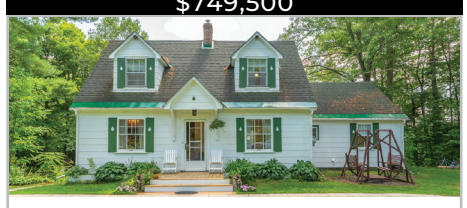

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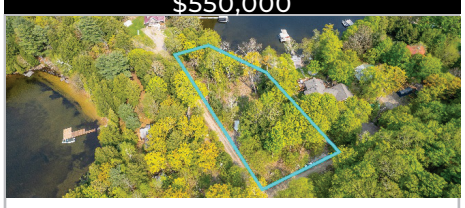

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BRADY LAKE ROAD
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MUNICIPAL ROAD | 6.83 ACRES | MLS# 40465659

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HADLINGTON ROAD
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LAKEVIEW STREET
$145,000

HYDRO | 1.47 ACRES | MLS# 40453568

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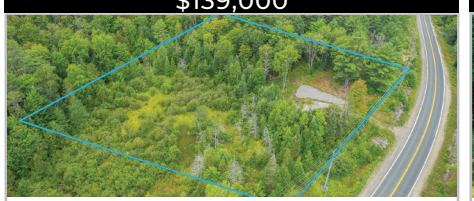
$139,000



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KABAKWA LAKE
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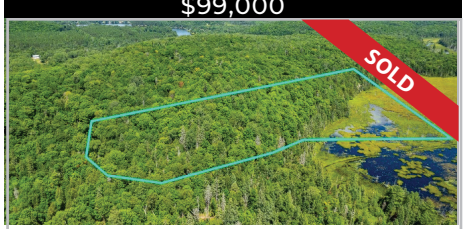

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